

Abbeville Press and Banner

\$1.50
A YEAR.

ABBEVILLE, S. C., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1915.

ESTABLISHED
1844

DIRECT LOAN BY BANK ON COTTON

RESERVE BOARD PERMITS NEW
ORLEANS BRANCH TO TRY
OUT NEW PLAN.

Washington, December 25.—Special: One of several important plans that are being considered by the Federal reserve board, which is seeking to perfect the new banking and currency system of the United States, with a view to retaining for this country after peace is declared in Europe, the dominant position it now holds in world finance, is about to be tested at the New Orleans branch bank.

The reserve board has granted the New Orleans branch bank the privilege of purchasing domestic acceptances based on agricultural products stored in the open market. If the experiment is successful the reserve board may recommend to Congress the amendment of the National Bank Act so that any national bank may deal in these acceptances.

It should be understood that the acceptance form of banking is where the paper is directly guaranteed by the bank itself instead of by the purchaser of the goods. This form of banking is not so well known in the United States as that done on a commercial note basis, where the bank finances a transaction between others. Sentiment in favor of the acceptance form of banking is increasing rapidly, however.

Warehouse System the Key.
New Orleans has been selected for the test of the domestic acceptances innovation because that city is the centre of the most efficient cotton warehousing system in the country. The effect of open market purchases by the branch bank in New Orleans is expected to have a prompt and positive effect upon the cotton trade throughout the South, and that all business will eventually be benefitted if the experiment succeeds. It was thought that cotton furnished the best opportunity for a demonstration of the stabilizing influence of a scientific and up-to-date system of finance.

The New Orleans bank will make a rate of perhaps 4 per cent on the domestic acceptances which it handles. This rate will be slightly higher than the discount rate on the same acceptances which would be handled by ordinary member banks, because in the case of the New Orleans branch that bank will have the entire responsibility of the loan. All other cotton territory will be interested in the result at the Louisiana port.

Fight on Burleson.
Signs multiply that there will be a fierce outbreak of pent-up Congressional fire against Postmaster General Burleson, after the holidays. The immediate cause is the reorganization of rural routes in the various States by the substitution of automobile vehicles for the familiar horse and cart affair.

It is claimed by the department that one automobile route can handle the work of several horse and wagon routes and save the Government money without hurting the service in any way. In some States hundreds of rural carriers have been dropped in the process of this consolidation.

Congressmen, on the other hand, declare that in many instances the consolidation of ordinary routes into auto routes has resulted in serious deterioration of the service. Most of the Congressmen who are on the warpath against the department on this account admit that there are cases where economy is possible by combining routes according to the departmental theory, but they contend that a man or a board of men sitting at Washington with a map is not competent to allow for the local peculiarities of routes and often makes bad blunders.

It is the idea of the average Congressman that he knows his district better than the postoffice department knows it, and he does not like to be left out of consultation when "economies" of this sort are planned. Listen for the roar.—News and Courier.

C. A. MILFORD & CO. FAILS.

The drug business conducted in the name of C. A. Milford & Company, an incorporated company, has filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy, and the business will be wound up in the bankrupt courts. The petition was filed Friday night at the close of business, and the order adjudging the company a bankrupt was made by Judge Johnson, in Greenville, on Saturday.

The company has not prospered for three or four years on account of bad collections and a falling off in the business due to several causes. The stockholders have made every effort to save the business by becoming personally liable for its debts, but they have not been able to stem the tide, and with the failure of the company they find themselves heavily involved.

The company owes debts to the amount of about \$18,000 and has nominal assets of about \$25,000. Dr. C. A. Milford has been at the head of the company since its organization. The other stockholders are, Messrs. Geo. Penney, J. R. Devlin, and Dr. J. R. Power.

CHINESE READY FOR REVOLUTION

CABLEGRAM TELLS OF ORGANIZATION PARTY.—AGAINST
YUAN SHI KAI.

San Francisco, Dec. 26.—An organized revolutionary party to be known as "the punitive expedition against Yuan Shi Kai" has been organized in China for the purpose of upholding the republic, according to a cablegram received here today from Tong King Chong, president of the Chinese Kung Tong (Chinese Republic association). It was from Tong King Chong's headquarters at Shanghai, China, that first news came of the reported revolt in Yunnan and other Chinese provinces.

According to the cablegram, the organization has announced that in the event its efforts are successful all contracts made by Yuan Shi Kai will be disregarded. Revolutionary leaders have declared that one of the objects of the organization "is to punish Yuan Shi Kai, the traitor."

Regarding the reported Yunnan revolt, the cablegram said that following Yunnan the provinces of Kwei Chau, Kiangse and Hupeh revolted and that the government ordered troops dispatched from Szechuen, province to put down the uprising. These troops, it was said, disobeyed the command and aligned themselves with the revolutionaries. Many citizens followed the soldiers in joining the revolt, the cable stated. Hupeh was not mentioned in previous cable dispatches and today's advice said nothing about the province of Kwangtung, which was declared in a previous announcement to be in revolt.

TO SUFFER DEATH PENALTY.

Negro Convicted of Assault Sentenced in Pickens.

Pickens, Dec. 27.—Special: At a special term of Court held here today Pete Hamilton, colored, was found guilty of criminal assault on a prominent lady of the county and was sentenced by Judge T. J. Mauldin to be electrocuted on February 4, 1916.

H. C. FRICK TO THE RESCUE

PITTSBURGH YOUTH MAY WELL
REJOICE.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 24.—Joy prevailed in the hearts of Pittsburgh school children tonight as a result of the announcement late today by H. C. Frick, millionaire coal magnate, that he will pay in full as a Christmas gift, all the accounts of the 41,000 children depositors in the Pittsburgh Bank for Savings, which was closed here last Wednesday by order of the State department of banking. The deposits amount to \$167,136.68, and payment will be made in cash just as soon as the necessary arrangements can be completed, which probably will be about January 3.

In order to induce children to save a school savings fund was started many years ago. Through an agreement with the city board of education bank collectors visited the 12 schools in the city weekly. Penny by penny the deposits of the children increased until they amounted to nearly \$170,000. Then a few days before Christmas announcement that the bank had been closed and gloom fell over the city.

When Mr. Frick, who is in New York, was informed that thousands of children were depositors, he at once communicated with H. E. McEldowny, president of another local bank, and announced that he would take care of the funds in such a way that the children would not lose their deposits.

BRYAN HOLDS BACK FOR FORD'S ARRIVAL

New York, Dec. 27.—Reports that William Jennings Bryan had contemplated joining Henry Ford in Europe were confirmed today; but because Mr. Ford himself is returning to this country Mr. Bryan will not go to Europe.

It was learned here that he had booked passage for himself and Mrs. Bryan on the steamer Rotterdam sailing tomorrow. But today he telegraphed that because of Mr. Ford's return, he (Bryan) had indefinitely postponed his trip.

Copenhagen, Dec. 27.—Gov. L. B. Hanna, of North Dakota, a member of the Ford peace party, arrived here today suffering from influenza. He has a high fever.

The governor was admitted to St. Joseph's hospital, Copenhagen. The American legation is caring for him. The American minister, Dr. Maurice Egan, Mrs. Egan, and many others have visited the governor or sent flowers.

Never do anything disagreeable today that you can just as well put off until tomorrow. By that time, you may not have occasion to do it.

ENGLAND HALTS AT CROSS ROADS

CABINET COMES TO PARTING
OF WAYS—MUST DECIDE
COURSE.

London, Dec. 26.—At a cabinet council meeting today it is expected there will be a decision as to whether the results of the Derby scheme of recruiting justify continued adherence to the voluntary system or whether some form of conscription will become necessary. This council was to have been held Friday, but David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, was engaged in an important munitions mission in the Clyde district.

The Times suggests this morning that the conscriptions are in a majority of the cabinet and that should force be decided some anti-conscription ministers will resign. They, however, will not do so until all hope of securing unity in the cabinet is abandoned. Their plan, The Times says, is to give the single men another chance for a fortnight and that if this plan still failed to bring the men to the scratch these ministers will reluctantly abandon their opposition to conscription.

Another solution and one that the ministers are said to have discussed is a general election on the question. The Times' military correspondent who evidently is skeptical of the Derby scheme, is for the house of commons to insist in the coming debate that the government shall reveal the total deficit in the army, that is, to reveal the differences between the estimates and the strengths. He infers that the battalions are not being kept up to their proper strength.

"If parliament is determined and ruthless," he says it will compel the government to count only the men fit to serve in the field. We have passed the stage where we can allow ourselves to be fobbed off by resonant platitudes advocating secrecy. This claim has been the mainstay of failure and we want no more of it."

The correspondent concludes that the allies, counting only the men actually at the front, have about 6,000,000 to the enemy's 5,000,000 but that this superiority has been almost reduced to equality by the strategy of the past year and by the special conditions of the Italian theatre which enabled some 800,000 to 1,000,000 Austrians to hold up the Italians. "It is impossible to win the war without greatly superior numbers," he concludes, "and still less possible to win it soon. Therefore provisions for such numbers is the primary duty of the allies."

COTTON MILLS IN CHINA.

Two modern cotton mills will soon be established in Tien Tsin, China, orders for nine hundred thousand dollars of machinery having been placed with a Boston firm. The mills will have a capacity of twenty-five thousand spindles.

GENERAL NEWS ITEMS

Governor Manning has appointed C. M. McCurry as auditor of Florence County to succeed H. L. Darr, deceased.

The Ford Peace party has lost one of its members from death, Lloyd M. Bingham having died of pneumonia in Christiania.

Major General Goethals, Governor of the Panama Canal Zone, has been a visitor in South Carolina this Christmas, being in Edgfield with relatives.

J. Stokes Sally of Orangeburg, has been appointed by Governor Manning as solicitor of the first circuit, to succeed P. T. Hildebrand, who died recently.

Garment manufacturers in convention at Chicago, on the 23rd of December, made the announcement that women's skirts will be five inches shorter next summer than they are now. This will mean twelve inches from the ground.

The Board of Aldermen of New York city have decreed that after the first of January, horse flesh can be sold for meat in the city, and old horses instead of being sold for their bones can be fattened and sold for meat.

The celebration of England's second Christmas of the war is being devoted mainly to the soldiers. More than 1,500,000 packages have been sent to soldiers on the Continent. Six special trains and four Channel boats have been employed for the last week to carry the army mails.

The German prisoners in England are preparing for elaborate Christmas celebrations. At Donnington Hall, the place of confinement of a majority of the officers, so many packages are being received from Germany that the village postoffice has been compelled to enlarge its staff.

HENRY FORD RETURNING HOME

FORCED TO ABANDON HIS
PEACE TRIP—OTHERS TO
CONTINUE.

Christiania, Norway, Dec. 24 (via London).—The Norwegian liner Bergensfjord with Henry Ford on board, sailed for New York this morning. Mr. Ford stated before leaving Bergen that the peace expedition would continue under the auspices of the Women's International Peace association. The Rev. Samuel S. Marquis, dean of St. Paul's cathedral, Detroit, sailed from Bergen with Mr. Ford.

Before leaving Christiania for Bergen, Mr. Ford wrote out the following statement for the press:

"I am satisfied with what has been accomplished in Christiania. Peace has been given publicity. Newspapers have power to end the war, for it is through publicity that the gospel of peace is spread."

"Norway is like every other country. The people are all right."

In announcing at Bergen the circumstances under which the expedition would be continued, Mr. Ford said a committee had been appointed to act as leaders. It consists of Judge Ben Lindsey of Denver, the Rev. Dr. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, of Chicago, John Barry, of San Francisco, Lieut. Gov. Andrew J. Bethea, of South Carolina, and Louis P. Lochner, of Chicago, Mr. Ford's secretary.

Christiania newspapers say that in view of Mr. Ford's departure no prominent Norwegians will join the expedition.

FORD PEACE PARTY SEEM TO BE AT SEA

Stockholm, via London, December 26.—The members of the Ford peace expedition have held various meetings in an endeavor to arouse a peace sentiment in Sweden. These meetings were not accorded an official character. The Swedish Peace and Arbitration League decided that it was unable officially to recognize the expedition because the expedition came without official recognition in America.

Those who have been in charge of the expedition since Mr. Ford's departure for the United States, say that they still are without a definite programme of procedure. The members of the peace mission will leave Stockholm next Wednesday night and arrive at Copenhagen Thursday. Information has been received that it will be impossible to go to The Hague through Germany. Hence, this will necessitate the chartering of a steamer from Denmark and proceeding to The Hague by sea. The peace sessions will end about January 7, when most of the members of the party will return to the United States.

Municipal Christmas trees are being held all over the United States, many of the cities spending large sums of money on this form of entertainment. On the Alamo plaza in Texas, a historic place indeed, a giant mountain cedar has been planted as a permanent tree for the city.

Forty thousand children were depositors in the Pittsburgh Bank for Savings which closed its doors a few days before Christmas. When this news reached H. C. Frick, the millionaire coal magnate, he at once announced that he would pay in full the accounts as a Christmas gift to the children who had been saving their money. The amount will be something over one hundred and sixty-seven thousand dollars.

The bureau of vital statistics has issued their compilation of figures giving the births and deaths in South Carolina since Jan. 1st, to Oct. 31st. The birth list is larger in every county save Richland, which is attributed to the number of deaths in the State Hospital. In Abbeville County there were three hundred and eighty nine deaths and seven hundred and twenty-five births. Horry county leads the list with over a thousand births.

There is an epidemic of grip and colds going through the north, which is taking a heavy toll in deaths. Camden, N. J., reports a death an hour on the 23rd of December, giving sixty deaths in as many hours. In Philadelphia ten thousand people are suffering from grip. The hospitals are crowded and there has been thirty six deaths. The health authorities of Milwaukee and Chicago have issued warnings against kissing, fifty thousand people being ill with grip and eighty five thousand children are absent from school on account of sickness. Milwaukee is having the worst epidemic in the history of the city.

STITCH IN TIME WILL SAVE NINE

WILSON TO URGE NATIONAL
DEFENSE PROGRAM—SPEED
UP CONGRESS.

Hot Springs, Va., Dec. 26.—Congress will be urged by President Wilson to concentrate its attention upon the administration's national defense programme immediately after the holidays. It was learned here tonight that while the president has no desire to see the preparedness plans rushed through without full consideration and debate, he is most anxious to have the army and navy bills disposed of as promptly as possible. He not only believes it is essential to put the war and navy departments in a position to begin work on their new programmes without delay, but wants the congressional calendars cleared for general legislation later in the winter.

Snow fell here all night last night, covering the ground to a depth of more than a foot. This did not keep the president and his bride from having their daily automobile ride, however.

Tonight there was a meeting in the hotel held under the auspices of the Marquis and Marchioness of Aberdeen and addressed by Mrs. Barton French, recently returned from her Red Cross work in France. The president and Mrs. Wilson declined invitations to attend.

The president will celebrate his 59th birthday Tuesday. He will be surprised at dinner with a great birthday cake, bearing 59 candles, which the hotel management today ordered the chef to prepare. Officers of the volunteer fire department here having heard of the president's election as an honorary member of the Pass Christian, Miss., department two years ago, have invited him to attend a celebration at the fire house and add another honorary membership to his list. President Wilson won his place in the Pass Christian organization by aiding it in putting out a fire.

FOUR OF ALLIES SHIPS DESTROYED

KAISER ILL, GERMANS ARE
WORRIED.

London, Dec. 27.—Lloyds announced this afternoon that one French steamer, two British steamers and a Belgian vessel have been lost. It is presumed they were sunk by submarines.

The list of lost ships given out by Lloyds follows: The French steamer Ville de La Ciotat, 6,390 tons, with a loss of eighty lives. The British steamer Yeddo. The crew was saved. The British steamer Cottingham. Seven members of the crew saved. The Belgian steamer Minister Beer-naert. Seven members of the crew saved.

The death list included one woman first-class passenger, two children, and the stewardess, Consul Kehlberg stated. The ship was torpedoed at 10:15 o'clock in the morning and sank in fifteen minutes. The nationality of the submarine is unknown. There were no Americans aboard, he cabled.

Geneva, Dec. 27.—Dispatches from Munich state that the Kaiser's health is causing great anxiety in military circles. The throat affection to which all Hohenzollerns are subject has developed from the exposure and fatigue due to the war. An operation is now necessary.

Two throat specialists have arrived at Berlin. The Crown Prince is expected soon. The Kaiser is keeping to his room.

THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE

On account of the exceedingly bad weather the Community Tree, which was to have been held Christmas night on the public square, had to be postponed until Monday night. The tree was decorated by a committee of ladies Monday afternoon and the lights were turned on at half past six o'clock. The square was filled with grown folks and children and the tree presented a beautiful appearance. The choirs of the different churches of the city were stationed on the Court House portico and sang several familiar hymns led by Miss Long, of Due West, whose magnificent voice rang out full and clear to the utmost ends of the crowd.

After the singing the children were served with oranges, much to their delight.

Abbeville has never had anything of the kind before and this tree is simply a sample of what can be done and improved upon each year.

As a rule the man with a swelled head suffers less than those who are compelled to associate with him.

JAPAN MAY ENTER INTO WORLD WAR

RESULT OF THE SINKING OF
JAPANESE LINER IN THE
MEDITERRANEAN.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The American Consul Bristow Port Said cabled today that no warning was given the Japanese liner Yaskago Maru before she was torpedoed and sunk in the Mediterranean last Tuesday by a submarine of unestablished nationality. The liner made no attempt to escape. The consul's dispatch was the first official information in response to Secretary Lansing's call for reports. The incident will probably be the subject of further diplomatic correspondence with the Teutonic powers. The report says the submarine was not seen until after the liner was torpedoed. Then only the periscope was visible. The ship sunk in forty nine minutes. The survivors were 382 in number were picked up by a French cruiser and landed at Port Said. One American, W. J. Leigh, was among the number.

The general assumption is that the submarine must have been German or Austrian. Renewed efforts will be made to determine the nationality. Instructions to that effect will probably be sent out today by the state department. If it can gather the necessary information on which to proceed the United States is prepared to include the incident in diplomatic representations against the sinking of non-combatant ships without warning.

The outcome of Yaskago Maru case is generally regarded by officials and diplomats here as surrounded with wide possibilities, regarding Japan's future course in the war. It has been suggested that she might answer the challenge to her shipping by wide participation in the war, even to the extent of taking part in the European operations.

GERMAN REPORT SAYS RUSSIANS ARE DEMORALIZED

Berlin, Dec. 27.—(Wireless)—Reports from Caucasus received from Constantinople state the Russian army is demoralized as a result of cold, hunger, cholera, typhoid and poor equipment, says Overseas agency.

Poles in the Russian army whose home are in districts where the Germans are occupying are deserting or begging to be sent home.

RAIN, SNOW, SLEET, WIND AND THUNDER

New York, Dec. 27.—Northern and eastern New York and New England are slowly recovering from damage of yesterday's storm. A succession of rain, snow, lightning, sleet and thunder, winding up with a gale, levelled wires and trees, unroofed houses, drove shipping ashore and caused widespread damage, with many deaths and accidents. Telegraphic communication in some sections is still interrupted. Trains are unable to maintain schedules because signal systems are crippled.

New England suffered most. Reports told of severe damage to buildings and vessels. Snowfall was comparatively light, except in northern New York and northern New England.

Eight deaths are here attributed to storm. Wind once attained velocity of 90 miles an hour.

INVENTIONS FOR THE MAIMED

Berlin, Dec. 24.—It is beginning to be realized in Germany that the war is going to leave the belligerent nations with a great number of maimed and crippled men, and German inventors and organizers are already at work providing for the special needs of this class. The Christmas catalogue of a Berlin jewelry firm, for example, contains a distinct section for one-armed men. There are several kinds of so-called fork-knives, contrived in a very ingenious and handy manner. One consists of an ordinary table knife with the cutting edge as usual on one side, but having fork prongs projecting from the extremity of the blunt side. Another is an ordinary fork with the inner prong widened and sharpened. A "meat-mincer" consists of two sharp pronged forks arranged pincer like or like chop sticks. Another offering is a little rack which enables a one-armed card-player to hold, arrange, and shuffle his cards.

PARKER CREDITORS ASK FOR BANKRUPTCY

Decree Sought in Greenville Court
Against Former Mill President.

Greenville, Dec. 27.—An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was today filed by Haynsworth & Haynsworth, against the former mill president, Lewis W. Parker. The petitioning creditors are Hampton Cotton Mills company, Victor Manufacturing company, and Parker Cotton Mills company. It is believed that the liabilities of Mr. Parker will approximate \$500,000, and but little is known of the amount of his assets.